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*Cyprus: Turkey and Greece appear ready to implement measures to end the crisis, but the Cypriot Government has not yet accepted their solution.

Nicosia is balking at the proposed arrangements for pacification of the island after the withdrawal of the bulk of the mainland Greek troops.

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[REDACTED] If, however, Ankara becomes convinced that the Makarios government is doubledealing or trying to renege on its commitments, a strong reaction can be expected.

Turkey has not relaxed its high level of military preparedness, and could quickly proceed with its invasion plans if it decided that further negotiations with Cyprus were pointless.

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Thailand: The Thai army is moving forcefully to extend its control over counterinsurgency operations in northeast Thailand.

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The army was given greater authority in the northeast in October, although its jurisdiction over nonmilitary aspects of the counterinsurgency program is still under discussion in Bangkok. It appears that army leaders are anxious to assert at least nominal authority over development programs, although they will probably leave the day-to-day direction to civilians.

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In any case, the army clearly intends to adopt tough tactics against the insurgents.

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Egypt: Nasir's position on future Israeli use of the Suez Canal apparently is not as uncompromising as originally reported.

A fuller translation of Nasir's speech of 23 November shows that he linked eventual Israeli use of the Suez Canal with a settlement of the original Palestine question. Cairo thus appears to be standing on its previous position that Israel would be allowed some use of the canal if a "just" settlement of the Palestinian refugee problem were arranged.

Cairo has been making an effort to stress the moderate aspects of Nasir's remarks. During a press conference in Cairo on 26 November, a government spokesman denied that Nasir was a "war peddler." He asserted that Egypt is making a "serious, honest effort" to reach a political solution, and is giving serious thought to the recent UN Security Council resolution on the Middle East.



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India: There has been no let up in the political crisis in West Bengal. The new Congress-backed government suffered a setback on 29 November when parliamentary maneuvering by the ousted United Front coalition blocked a confidence vote. Although New Delhi insists that the state government will stay on, it is not clear how the new leadership hopes to get a legislative mandate. Mob violence has erupted again in Calcutta, but police--if necessary with the help of alerted army units--should be able to contain it.

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